

move to amend as Chair of the Appropriations Committee, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Warner, please.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this amendment is a committee amendment to 813. It deals with the appropriations for Department of Education, Vocational Rehabilitation, which is a very excellent program, as I think everyone recognizes it has one of those drawbacks that we always deal with, and that is the maintenance of effort requirement by the federal government, which always creates some hesitancy as you expand it, because you never have a chance to reconsider that expansion at a later date. So we try to find a variety of...look at a variety of funding sources that would accommodate some expansion in the program and yet maybe not put as much continuing pressure on the General Fund, because of maintenance requirements. In that process the concept that was in 813 shows some increase in match funds from mental health regions, which also can utilize some of these funds for some of the people that they serve. But in the way the numbers mix, and we made this adjustment very late, but the way the numbers mix why it actually came out that some of the existing programs that are funded through the Department of Education itself rather than some of the programs with the regions, would have reduced...actual reduced funding. And that obviously was not a desirable result. So the committee amendment, in effect, will reduce the Cash Fund appropriation, which would have been from the regions, increases the General Fund for the first year by \$37,611...pardon, \$37,686 General Fund which will result in about an 11 percent increase; and then the second year the increase in General Funds to maintain the maintenance of efforts would be \$164,578, correction, I'm looking on the wrong sheet, \$75,286, and that results in a...now I've got the right sheet, thank you. That also will result in an increase in federal funds. So what the motion does, it reduces the Cash Fund appropriation each year, as spelled out in the bill, 37,000 the first year, and increases the General Fund by a like amount; then the following year it continues at a lower level for the cash funding, but increases the General Fund by the 75,287. And the result of this, there will be some growth in the program as far as maintenance of effort requirements on into the future, but the result of this adds about 800,000...the result of all these numbers will end up with about 800,000 more available funds, cash, federal and state, which will give some expansions